

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 121879  
ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SIG-03 SOE-02 AF-10  
ARA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-12 PM-05 H-02 INR-10  
L-03 NASA-02 NEA-11 NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 PA-02  
DOE-15 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 ICA-20 /180 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/PA:JMPOPE:PC

APPROVED BY ACDA/PA:JMPOPE

-----088966 130258Z /64

P 122036Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY

USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 121879

USSALTTWO/CTB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: MAY 12 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL  
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 121879

1. BERNARD GWERTZMAN OF NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED THAT IN  
COMMUNIQUE ISSUED IN WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW, U.S. AND USSR  
SAID THEY HAD AGREED TO HOLD REGULAR NEGOTIATIONS TO  
EXPLORE WAYS OF CURBING WORLD ARMS TRADE. GWERTZMAN SAID  
THIS WAS FIRST TIME THAT TWO COUNTRIES HAD BEEN ABLE TO  
AGREE ON NEGOTIATIONS OVER ARMS SALES, WHICH REPORTEDLY  
AMOUNTED TO MORE THAN 20 BILLION DOLLARS YEARLY, WITH U.S.

SALES IN LAST FISCAL YEAR AMOUNTING TO MORE THAN 11 BILLION DOLLARS AND SOVIET TRANSFERS ABOUT HALF THAT AMOUNT. "AMERICAN OFFICIALS SAID AGREEMENT TO HOLD NEGOTIATIONS, PROBABLY STARTING IN NEXT TWO MONTHS, DID NOT MEAN THAT AN EARLY ACCORD WAS LIKELY IN VIEW OF PROBLEMS INVOLVED," GWERTZMAN REPORTED. "BUT THEY SAID SOVIET SIDE SEEMED CONCERNED ABOUT LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES OF UNLIMITED ARMS SALES AND APPEARED TO SEE THIS AS AN AREA IN WHICH SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS COULD BE IMPROVED." TIMES CORRESPONDENT SAID OFFICIALS STATED U.S. WOULD LIKE TO SEE AGREEMENT IN AT LEAST TWO BROAD AREAS: QUALITATIVE RESTRAINTS, WHICH WOULD CALL FOR WILLINGNESS NOT TO BE FIRST TO INTRODUCE NEW ADVANCED KINDS OF WEAPONS INTO AN AREA, AND QUANTITATIVE LIMITS, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE REDUCING AMOUNT OF EQUIPMENT SOLD TO COUNTRIES IN PARTICULAR REGIONS SO AS NOT TO ENDANGER ANY ONE COUNTRY'S LEGITIMATE DEFENSE NEEDS.

2. WASHINGTON POST STAFF WRITERS GEORGE C. WILSON AND LAURENCE STERN NOTED THAT "IN CONTINUING WASHINGTON GAME OF 'PROMISES, PROMISES'--COMPARING PRESIDENT'S WORDS AND DEEDS--CARTER'S PRONOUNCEMENTS ON SUBJECT OF U.S. ARMS SALES ABROAD PROBABLY SCORE AS MOST CONTRADICTORY UTTERANCES ON ANY ISSUE." THEY RECALLED THAT CARTER, IN HIS MARCH 17, 1977 SPEECH TO U.N., REITERATED HIS CAMPAIGN COMMITMENTS TO THROTTLE DOWN U.S. ROLE IN GLOBAL ARMS RACE. "THIS YEAR, ACCORDING TO PENTAGON PROJECTIONS, U.S. UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 121879

ARMS SALES ABROAD WILL REACH THEIR HIGHEST LEVEL IN HISTORY--13.2 BILLION DOLLARS," THEY REPORTED. "NEXT YEAR TOTAL IS EXPECTED TO GO UP TO 13.5 BILLION DOLLARS, THANKS IN PART TO NEW MIDDLE EAST AIRPLANE DEAL." WILSON AND STERN POINTED OUT THAT "IN DEFENSE OF PRESIDENT, BASIC COMMITMENTS FOR EXPANDED SALE OF MILITARY JETS WERE MADE DURING NIXON AND FORD ADMINISTRATIONS. GREAT LEAP WAS MADE BETWEEN 1971 AND 1976 WHEN U.S. FOREIGN MILITARY SALES JUMPED FROM 1.5 BILLION TO 13.1 BILLION DOLLARS.... FROM STANDPOINT OF PRESENT ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON, AS WITH ITS REPUBLICAN PREDECESSORS, UNDERLYING ISSUES IN CURRENT WARPLANE SALES CONTROVERSY ARE POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC RATHER THAN CONSIDERATIONS OF STRICTLY MILITARY SECURITY. POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC CHITS ARE OIL, PETRO DOLLARS AND ISRAEL'S INFLUENTIAL CONSTITUENCY OF SUPPORTERS IN U.S.--ALL OF WHICH PRESIDENT AS WELL AS CONGRESS ARE TRYING TO JUGGLE."

3. WASHINGTON POST PUBLISHED REUTER DISPATCH REPORTING THAT SOVIET UNION IS DEVELOPING NEW SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE SYSTEM FOR USE AGAINST U.S. CRUISE MISSILES. REPORT BASED ON PREPARED SPEECH BEFORE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS BY

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING WILLIAM PERRY, WHO SAID SYSTEM WOULD NOT BE OPERATIONAL UNTIL MID-OR-LATE 1980'S. "TO BE MODERATELY EFFECTIVE AGAINST SMALL, LOW ALTITUDE TARGET LIKE CRUISE MISSILE, SOVIETS WOULD NEED TO DEPLOY 500 TO 1,000 SAX-10 SYSTEMS, MASSIVE INVESTMENT," PERRY SAID. HE SAID SOVIETS ARE WORKING ALSO ON SURVEILLANCE PLANE WITH LOOK-DOWN RADAR CAPABILITY SIMILAR TO AMERICAN AIRBORNE WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM PLANE AND COULD BE EXPECTED TO HAVE IT OPERATIONAL BY LATE 1980'S. PERRY SAID ALTHOUGH SOVIETS ARE CONSIDERABLY BEHIND U.S. IN LOOK-DOWN, SHOOT-DOWN WEAPONS, THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO ENGAGE U.S. CRUISE MISSILES AND LOW-ALTITUDE BOMBERS BY LATE 1980'S. PERRY SAID U.S. IS EVALUATING ELECTRONIC JAMMING IMPROVEMENTS FOR ITS B-52  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 121879

AND FB-111 BOMBERS TO GIVE THEM IMPROVED PROTECTION AGAINST NEW SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE AND LOOK-DOWN RADAR.

4. WALTER PINCUS OF WASHINGTON POST REPORTED THAT SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, CITING LACK OF AN ARMS CONTROL IMPACT STATEMENT, HAS DELETED FUNDS FROM FISCAL 1979 DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL FOR DEVELOPMENT OF W-81 NUCLEAR WARHEAD FOR NAVY'S NEW AEGIS ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILE SYSTEM. COMMITTEE MOVE, PINCUS SAID, MARKED FIRST TIME CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE HAS USED LACK OF AN IMPACT STATEMENT AS REASON FOR CUTTING WEAPON'S FUNDING. ACCORDING TO INFORMED SOURCES, HE SAID, SENATOR JOHN CULVER REQUESTED NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, AS REQUIRED BY LAW, TO SUPPLY AN IMPACT STATEMENT ON W-81 NUCLEAR WARHEAD. "NO STATEMENT WAS SUPPLIED TO CULVER, IN PART BECAUSE OPPOSITION TO DEVICE HAD ALREADY DEVELOPED WITHIN CARTER ADMINISTRATION," PINCUS REPORTED. NSC, ITSELF, HAS JUST RECENTLY ORDERED STUDY ON NEED FOR PROPOSED NUCLEAR WARHEAD."

5. HEDRICK SMITH OF NEW YORK TIMES SAID "ALTHOUGH IT WAS TECHNICAL VICTORY FOR ADMINISTRATION," YESTERDAY'S TIE VOTE (8 TO 8) IN SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE WAS BLOW TO CARTER'S HOPES FOR QUICK AND DECISIVE DEFEAT OF OPPOSITION TO HIS MIDDLE EAST AIRCRAFT PACKAGE. "RATHER THAN SETTLING ISSUE ONCE AND FOR ALL, COMMITTEE'S ACTION HAS FUELED FIRES OF AN ALREADY INTENSIVE LOBBYING EFFORT BY BOTH SIDES AND FORCED SENATE AS WHOLE TO TAKE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE ON MR. CARTER'S MIDDLE EAST POLICIES, SOMETHING MOST SENATORS WANTED TO AVOID."

6. SYNDICATED COLUMNISTS ROWLAND EVANS AND ROBERT NOVAK SAID CONCERN WITHIN DEFENSE CIRCLES OVER AIR FORCE GEN. DAVID JONES AS NEW JCS CHAIRMAN WAS HEIGHTENED LAST WEEK  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 121879

WHEN DEFENSE NUCLEAR AGENCY "WAS QUIETLY REMOVED FROM STUDY OF PROPOSED U.S.-SOVIET NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY." WRITING IN WASHINGTON POST, EVANS AND NOVAK SAID "AGENCY HAD ADVISED THAT TREATY (FAVORED BY PRESIDENT CARTER) BANNING ALL UNDERGROUND EXPLOSIONS CAN BE VIOLATED BY SOVIET UNION WITHOUT DETECTION. IF AGENCY IS NOW CUT OUT OF ISSUE, JCS WILL LOSE ITS INDEPENDENT SOURCE OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION. SIGNIFICANTLY, THAT COULD SCARCELY HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT AT LEAST ACQUIESCENCE OF JCS CHAIRMAN JONES....WHILE NOBODY QUESTIONS HIS EXECUTIVE COMPETENCE, JONES IS CRITICIZED FOR SWALLOWING WHOLE THOSE CARTER ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVES CONSIDERED DUBIOUS ELSEWHERE AT PENTAGON....JONES PRIVATELY HAS EXPRESSED WORRY ABOUT CARTER'S PROPOSED TOTAL NUCLEAR TEST BAN. BUT FELLOW OFFICERS DOUBT HE WILL DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. SUCH DOUBTS WERE REINFORCED BY LAST WEEK'S CLOSEOUT OF DEFENSE NUCLEAR AGENCY."

7. HENRY KISSINGER, IN INTERVIEW ON NBC-TV'S "TODAY" PROGRAM, SAID FRIDAY HE AGREES WITH STATEMENT BY ALL 38 REPUBLICAN SENATORS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER IS PERMITTING SOVIET UNION TO GAIN POTENTIALLY DECISIVE MILITARY SUPERIORITY OVER U.S. UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL QUOTED KISSINGER AS SAYING "THERE IS TREND IN MILITARY BALANCE THAT HAS MANY ORIGINS, INCLUDING WAR IN VIETNAM AND BUDGETARY STRINGENCIES, WHICH IS WORRISOME IF WE DO NOTHING TO RECTIFY." FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE DECLARED "WE HAVE NATIONAL TASK TO RECTIFY MILITARY IMBALANCE." VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL SUMMARIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE121879  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JPMPOPE:PC  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780203-0215  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780563/aaaacbx.tel  
**Line Count:** 202  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 402c969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN ACDA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 mar 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2703619  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MAY 12 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL INTEREST LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR  
**TAGS:** PARM, SOPN  
**To:** GENEVA USSALTTWO  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/402c969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014